

A snapshot of Christchurch's 2024 Quality of Life Survey

The biennial Quality of Life Survey measures how people living in New Zealand's larger urban areas feel about their wellbeing.

The 2024 survey questioned 6994 New Zealanders, including 524 people in Christchurch about their perceptions of life in Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin, Hamilton, Hutt City, Porirua, Tauranga and Wellington. The survey ran from late April to August 2024, with slight delays in results to ensure alignment with 2023 Census data.

The results feed into Christchurch City Council's Community Outcomes monitoring programme and are used to inform Long Term Plan decisions, Council strategies and policy processes.

Read the full results at

ccc.govt.nz/qualityoflife

Quality of life, health and wellbeing

80%



rate their quality of life as good, very good or extremely good, similar to 2022 (81%) and down from 2020 (87%), with personal and social factors the main reasons.

30%



said their quality of life had decreased in the last year, down on 2022 (34%), due mainly to financial and work issues.

71%



rated their physical health as good, very good or excellent.

67%



rated their mental health as good, very good or excellent.

Community wellbeing

14%



said they felt lonely or isolated most or all of the time, and 45% rarely or never felt lonely – down from 2022 (53%) and down dramatically from 2018 (64%).

Crime and safety continue to be issues in Christchurch, with only

37%



saying they felt safe in the central city after dark, basically unchanged from 2022.

61%



said racism or discrimination towards particular groups was a problem in Christchurch. This was lower than 2022 (71%) but higher than the big cities average of 51%.

38%



had confidence that Christchurch City Council makes decisions in the best interests of the city, up from 29% in 2022 and higher than in other big cities.

Housing and economic wellbeing

37%



found their housing cost affordable, down from 46% in 2022 and 59% in 2020.

76%



said their house was suitable for their needs and for the needs of others who live with them.

20%



said they don't have enough money for everyday needs, and 54% said they don't have enough saved up to pay a large, unexpected bill.

64%



of those in paid employment were satisfied with their work/life balance, very similar to the last three surveys and higher than the big cities average.

Public transport and the environment

77%



said the city is a great place to live, compared to 81% in 2022, but higher than the big cities average of 73%. They cited the rejuvenation of the central city and the many things to do as the main reasons.

51%



see Christchurch's cycleway network as safe, well ahead of the big cities average of 33%.

17%



were using public transport at least once a week – much lower than the big cities average but higher than 2022 (8%).

29%



are worried about climate change, down from 41% in 2022, with similar patterns in other big cities.